

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: Paul D. Ringgenberg, Mark A. Proett,  
Michael T. Pelletier, Michael L. Hinz,  
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and Mehdi Azari

Filed: Herewith

Entitled: METHODS OF DOWNHOLE TESTING  
SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS AND  
ASSOCIATED APPARATUS  
THEREFOR

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: R. Schoeppel

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Entry of the following preliminary amendment in the above-identified application, prior to the examination thereof, is respectfully requested. The present application is a Rule 53(b) divisional of application no. 10/270,424 for which a Notice of Allowance has been issued.